

# THE FLAGSHIP



May 28, 2023

Tom King, Editor

## *Coming Up!!!*

May 31: TBA

June 7: Board of  
Directors, 10:30 a.m.

June 7: Club Assembly

June 14: Neil Heatherly,  
VP of Healthcare  
Strategies, South College

June 15: Third  
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.,  
TBA

June 21: TBA

(All meetings begin at  
12:15 unless noted  
otherwise)



## Staying or Leaving? Here's the Update

Are we staying or are we leaving?

That's the question among our members right now after Fox Den hit us with a 54% increase in our per-member meal charge from \$19.50 to \$29 earlier this month. Our three leaders, President Megan Belcher, President Elect Val Privett and Vice President Teri Jo Fox have been working hard to answer this question.

This past week President Megan met with the president of Fox Den's Board of Directors, Mike Charland. "After speaking with Fox Den BOD President Mike Charland last Wednesday, I received a text stating that Fox Den is now willing to meet us in the middle with a lower price. I followed up with Caroline Inman (assistant General Manager) for confirmation and received the following email confirming \$25."

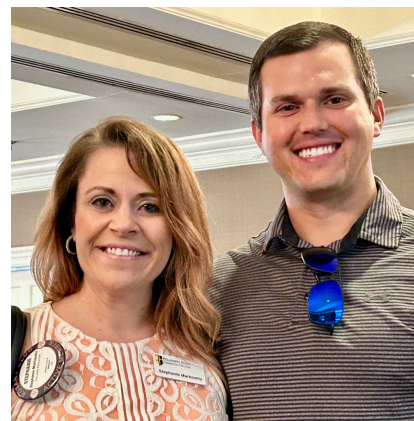
From Caroline Inman: "... It is very important to us to continue partnering and hosting the Farragut Rotary meeting. We will be glad to honor the \$25 (inclusive) price. We hope that this will help encourage your members to vote to stay at The Den!"

Here is the information about three alternatives, and all three have pluses and minuses — Farragut Community Center, Chesapeake's and Top Golf:

- **Top Golf:** Can accommodate 70 people, have agreed to an all-in price of \$20 per member and everyone is encouraged to come see the space on June 6 from 12 noon to 1 p.m.
- **Chesapeake's Seafood:** Plenty of space, all-in price is approximately \$27.31 per member. Parking could be an issue.
- **Farragut Community Center:** Great option but consistent availability might not occur until next year. Cost varies by caterer from \$18 to \$24 per member. "The Town of Farragut is moving into the Community

Center this fall while the Town Hall is being renovated. They are still ironing out parking and availability of space,” Megan says.

The timeline looks like this — President Megan will present their findings to our Board of Directors on Wednesday, June 7, and our members will vote on the choices on June 14.



## The Day's Lineup of Guests

It was fun day for guests. A guy we've not seen for a while, young faces we've never seen and a familiar face of a Rotaract member!

The first “guest” Noah Myers recognized Wednesday was the familiar face of a former long-time and very active member, **Ben Harkins**, pictured center with PP Tom King. Ben and Julie now are living in Florida. But a new grandchild is keeping them coming back home from time to time. Ben had a stroke last July but is already back playing golf and pickleball. It was great to see him!

**Rylie Barnwell** was the guest of her old granddaddy Alex Wednesday. She's a 9-year-old cutie pie (“I'm almost 10,” she said) who lives in Oak Ridge. They're pictured at the top left.



Stephanie Markowitz had a pair of guests with her — husband and Madi's daddy **Brent**, pictured above at the right. Her other guest is a member of the Pellissippi State Community College Rotaract Club, **Marc Below**. Marc also was a really hard worker on our recent stream cleanup project and at our Sleep In Heavenly Peace Build Day at Fox Den.



Brian Elton's guest was his son, **Bennett**, who just finished his 9th grade year at Farragut High School. He turns 15 today! And he starts his first real job working for His Security on Tuesday after Memorial Day.



Andrew Vollman's guest was his son, **Nathan**, who just finished the 11th grade at Maryville High School.

Thanks to one all for joining us!!!!

## ***Four-Way Test***

Rotary's Four-Way Test  
of the things we think,  
say or do:

- 1) Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2) Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4) Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## ***Find Us On Facebook***

If you have not visited our Facebook page, give it a try!

Stephanie Markowitz does a great job of keeping the page updated. If you have not visited our page, we invite you to do so and to also **LIKE** the page!

Here is a [LINK](#) to our page.

## Wednesday's 'Incredible' Humor Review

**Scott Bertini** began our "Comedy Minute" Wednesday with a joke his young son, **Noah**, 7, passed along to Dad. "Do you know why you need to be careful opening the door of the refrigerator? Because you may catch the salad dressing!"



Not to be out done, of course, **Alex Barnwell** was ready. "A friend told me that he's renovating his house. 'First floor looks good. Second floor is another story,'" he said.

....And moving right along!!!!

## Today 'Good News' Family of Rotary Report

**Judith Bradbury** is home from her month-long trek to her native United Kingdom to see family and friends. She returned on Thursday. "Long day but I am safely home. The best holiday month ever!!!!," she said.



**Family of Rotary Chair Cindy Kraus** took care of getting **Dr. Bill Adkins** to our meeting Wednesday and back home afterwards. PP **Jim O'Brien** has volunteered for Wednesday's meeting on May 31. Right now we have no one who has agreed to give him a Rotary Ride in June. He lives at **Sherill Hills Resort Community** off Kingston Pike behind Academy Sports. If you can see fit to sign up, here's the [LINK](#) just for you!!!

**Proud Dad #1 Scott Bertini** reported that his son **Noah's** Farragut Baseball 7U Little League baseball team went 11-0-1 during its regular-season games and won the regular season and first place in the tournament! "We are so incredibly proud of him and his team," Scott said. Noah is second from the left on the front row.



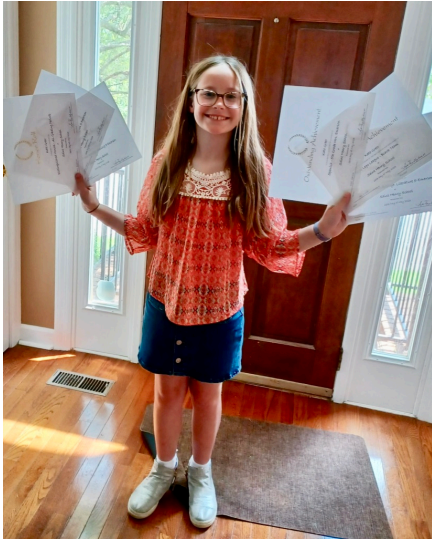
**Proud Dad #2 Scott Brockamp** says his daughter, **Kira**, 7, gathered her CBFO softball team — the Diamondbacks — team in the semifinal game to win their way into the championship game. "Unfortunately we lost that game, but our kiddos had an amazing season. Coaching these kids is one of the greatest joys in life, Scott said. "We were the 8th seed out of 10 for the tournament and made it to the championship game.....so proud of these girls." Kira just completed the second grade with honors at Eaton Elementary School in Lenoir City. In the picture Kira is second from the right on the second row.



**Proud Granddaddy John Hoffman** reports for us: "Granddaughter **Abby Greer** (pictured here with John and Susan) was a distinguished graduate of St. Henry School in Nashville. She will be attending St. Cecilia High School in the fall. At the graduation ceremonies she was given the "Tiger" award for her leadership, not just in the classroom but in overall activities at the school. She also received a partial scholarship to St. Cecilia, recognition for her role as co-captain of the Lego League team, class leader in Computer work, and several other honors. We are very proud of her."







**Proud Grandmother Susan Hoffman** reports this: Representing St. Henry School, Abby and her sister, Kate, participated in "FIRST Lego League Challenge" this academic year. This STEM competition focuses on robotics, coding, and project-based learning. Abby was team co-captain/chief programmer. Kate, a fifth grader, helped build the robot and helped with its programming. Finishing second in state level competition, they were invited to the Razorback Invitational at the University of Arkansas (80 teams from 37 states and seven countries).

Because the Invitational took place graduation weekend the younger students had to replace the captains. Kate became lead programmer, co-captain, and primary interview presenter. They were a finalist for their project, and scored well in the other categories. Great job ladies!

### *News and Notes To Note*

## Gators, Cycles, Julie & Wesley House

Our longtime member and **Past President Dale Read** sent an interesting picture that we're sharing today. Dale and wife Robbie live in The Villages in Florida and were on their back porch. "Look what showed up in our backyard today. May and June are mating season and they wander around a bit," Dale said.



"He's headed for a nearby pond." This looks a big 12-14 foot alligator on the prowl. No more from Dale. They're hunkering down!



Our motorcycle riding Rotarians — **Rev. David Bluford** and **Terry Kerbs** — recently competed a four-day, 1,300-mile ride with the International Fellowship of Motorcycle Rotarians. The ride was May 4-7 and the home base was Somerset, PA. They stopped in York, PA to tour the Harley Davidson Operations Plant but it was closed. They also visited the 9-11 Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, PA and also

toured the Fallingwater home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in Mill Run, PA. The group of riders (pictured here) included several from Canada, others from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and our gents. “The joy of meeting other Rotarians from various parts of North America who share in this Fellowship as part of the Rotary experience is always a wonderful experience,” David said.

Our Ukrainian friend **Julie Tryukhan** will be giving the opening speech at the Ohio-Erie Rotary Youth Exchange Orientation for our upcoming outbound students and their families at Otterbein College in Westerville, OH on July 7. These students are from Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Florida and Tennessee Rotary districts.

Just a quick reminder about the Saturday July 24 work-morning project at **The Wesley House**. Based on early information we’ll have plenty to do. Service Projects Committee Co-Chair Scott Bertini will be sharing more information soon and we also will have a sign-up page online.



## Valerie Kinson Needs Your Tennessee Tags

**Valerie Kinson** is going to take gifts for her host families and Rotarians she will meet during her upcoming Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) year in South Korea. But she also needs to travel light.

Father Tory says they considered giving her a load of good Tennessee whiskey. “But that’s too heavy so we are asking if our club members or friends could donate some old Tennessee license plates. Those are small and thin and easy to pack and there’s nothing quite like it as a gift overseas,” he said.



If she gets a huge response, Bill Nichols says he’ll keep the leftovers for our outbound future students.

## The June Birthday Report

The last week of June 2023 is “**Birthday Week**” in our club. Five members — all guys — will be celebrating birthday celebrations in a five-day span. And they missed our meeting day that week on June 28th.

But maybe we can sing to them anyway! Here are the birthday boys!



June 25 — Alex Barnwell  
June 27 — Larry Click  
June 27 — Ron Williams  
June 29 — Howard Fass  
June 29 — Mark Holder

## **A Thought for Memorial Day**

"Home of the free, because of the brave." — **Anon**